United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3400
Date: February 25, 2005

Mr. Bob Wardwell
Adelphi Laboratory Center
2800 Powder Mill Road
ATTN: AMSRL-OP-SO-FE (Wardwell)
Adelphi, MD 20786

Dear Bob:

Enclosed for your information is the report on the crop tree management mast monitoring study that I conducted at Blossom Point Proving Grounds from 1999 to 2003.

In brief, mast production in the crop tree area exceeded production in the control area during the last three years of the study. Mast viability rates and average mast weights were similar between both areas. Both species of oaks, southern red oak and willow oak, had similar responses to crop tree management. Crown size and DBH were also accelerated in the crop tree area.

The results of this crop tree mast monitoring study show that mast protection can be increased through crop tree management and gives landowners and resource managers a way of improving both timber and wildlife values.

I would like to thank you and Jack Keyser for providing an area that was suitable for this project.

Sincerely,

Rodney L. Whiteman

RODNEY L. WHITEMAN
Forester
Forest Health Protection

Enclosure

Cc: Noel Schneeberger, AO
Jack Keyser, BPPG
Tom Eagle, Chesapeake Island Refuges
Allen Carter, Regional Forester, USDI F&WS
Brad Myers, PA Game Commission
Jack Winieski, The Allegheny News
John Klischies, NJDF
Dan Balser, ODF
Tim Morgan, Ravenna Arsenal
Arlyn Perkey
Ray Hicks, WVU
Jeff Krause, Raystown Lake

Paul Johansen, WV DNR